# The Great Depression and The Economic Outlook

# Ways to get out of the great recession

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#### 1.1. Credit Crunch and Great Recession

- 1. The crisis that hit the world economy in the Summer of 2007 began as a financial crisis triggered by the banks' behaviour with derivatives;
- 2. The crisis spread worldwide through a highly connected financial system and ultimately caused a sharp slowdown of the real economy, itself tightly connected through international trade;
- 3. There is a generalized consensus that the Great Recession was originated by:
  - I. Growing Chinese Current Account Surplus and corresponding US deficits;
  - II. Expansionary Monetary Policy in the US from 2000 to 2006;
  - III. De-Regulation of Financial Markets, especially since 1999;
  - IV. Increasing Sophistication of Financial Intermediation since late 80's.

#### 1.2. The Impact of the Great Recession

Real per-capita GDP, cumulative change over the period 2007-2013:



Source: Eurostat, September 2014

#### 1.3. The Italian Economy

#### Household final consumption expenditure, quarterly data, 2007Q1 - 2014Q2 (2005 = 100):



Source: Eurostat, November 2014; data for Germany are available till 2014Q1

#### 1.3. The Italian Economy

Gross Fixed Capital Formation, quarterly data, 2007Q1 – 2014Q2 (2005 = 100):



Source: Eurostat, November 2014; data for Germany are available till 2014Q1

#### 2.1. The Economic Scenario

#### Real GDP growth rate forecasts for the years 2015 and 2016:



Source: OECD Economic Outlook N°96, November 2014

#### 2.1. The Economic Scenario

#### Real GDP growth rate forecasts for the years 2015 and 2016:



Source: OECD Economic Outlook N°96, November 2014 and IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2014 (for Vietnam)

Facing the ineffectiveness of conventional monetary policies, the ECB has unveiled and undertaken **extraordinary monetary policies plans**:

- 1. June 5<sup>th</sup>, Targeted Long-Term Refinancing Operations (TLTROs);
- November 21<sup>st</sup>, Asset-backed securities (ABS) and Covered Bond purchasing program;
- Facing an increasing risk of deflation, the ECB is close to backing more aggressive monetary easing (QE).

Facing the risk of a "Japanese" disease, the new EC President Junker has revealed a  $\in$ 315 billon worth **investment plan** to kick – start Europe's economy.

The initiative will use  $\in$ 21 bn in EU funds as a guarantee to raise private cash in the capital markets. It will allow the EIB to issue  $\in$ 60 bn in bonds, cash that will then invested in  $\in$ 315bn of loans for infrastructures and small business.

Main area for investments include:

- Broadband
- Energy networks
- Transportation infrastructures
- Education and Research

#### 3.1. Ways Out? Internationalization

#### GDP at current prices, annual data, 1990 – 2019 (billions of US\$):



Source: IMF World Economic Outlook, October 2014

#### 3.1. Ways Out? Internationalization

Correlation between Labor Productivity and Index of Offshoring:



Source: Eurostat. Correlation coefficient: 0.11. Number of observations: 111 Countries selected: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden 12

#### 3.2. Ways Out? Education

#### Correlation between Labor Productivity and Education:



Countries selected: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, UK, US 12

#### 3.3. Ways Out? Innovation

#### Correlation between Labor Productivity and R&D business per capita expenditure:



Source: OECD. Number of observations: 228

### Countries selected: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, United States